THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) The Government intends to formulate a new Broadcasting Bill for introduction in the Parliament at the earliest, details of which are yet to be finalized.

(c) No-time frame can be indicated as yet.

Live Telecast of Haj

579. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons as to why Doordarshan do not telecast the Annual Haj live, as this is a congregation of more than 30 lakh Muslims all over the world and nearly one lakh Muslims from India participate;

(b) whether Doordarshan will consider telecasting the 'Haj 2000' live as most of the countries of the world telecast the Haj live; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) Programme Matters of Doordarshan fall within the purview of Prasar Bharati. Prasar Bharati have intimated that Doordarshan have not received any such requests for live coverage of the event as per their records. They have also intimated that if such a request is received, the same would be considered, vis-a-vis, the programme exigencies, costs involvement, technical feasibility and other such factors.

(c) Does not arise.

Liquor Advertisements on TV and Radio

580. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether liquor advertisements are shown/announced on T.V. and Radio;

(b) if so, its impact on public mind; and

(c) whether Government would ban such advertisements as demanded by many Women's organisations and general public as a measure of upliftment of poor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (c) Advertisements on Doordarshan and All India Radio are strictly governed by the "Code for Commercial Advertising" which inter-alia prohibits any advertisement, which relates to, or promotes liquor, alcohol or wines and other intoxicants.

Satellite channels which are uplinked from Indian soil are also required to follow the Commercial Advertising Code of Doordarshan. However, the foreign satellite channels which are uplinked from outside the country do not fall within the ambit of the Indian laws.

Proposal for Expansion of TV Network in Orissa

581. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal for the expansion of T.V. Network in Orissa during Ninth Plan period;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon;

(c) the places in that State where the new T.V. transmitters are proposed to be installed; and

(d) the details thereof, along with the damage caused to T.V. centres in Orissa due to recent cyclone?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) A statement showing details of the projects being implemented under the 9th Plan attached. These projects are at different stages of implementation. In the recent cyclone in Orissa, studio at Bhubaneswar and 25 TV transmitters were affected mainly because of damage caused to dish antenna systems and towers. All the effected services have since been restored.